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May 19, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 35 C.F.R. § § 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. No copies of the U.S. patent documents are enclosed, because they are available from the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A copy of the document 2000-277003 listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, although only English abstracts of the other non-English documents besides document 2000-277003 are enclosed, because those non-English documents already are of record.

A copy of a Japanese Official Letter issued in a foreign counterpart

application was submitted with the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 30, 2004. A further copy of the Japanese Official Letter is provided herewith as a supplement thereto, for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants now respectfully submit the attached paper entitled "Reason for Refusal" (pages 2-7), prepared by the Applicants, which includes at least a partial English Translation of the Japanese Official Letter. Also, the attached "Reason for Refusal" includes therein (by insertion) for the Examiners convenience, English translations of relevant portions of prior art references cited in the Japanese Official Letter (and referred to in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement). The Examiner is respectfully referred to the attached paper ("Reason for Refusal") for a further explanation of relevance of the references mentioned therein. All of those references were cited in previous Information Disclosure Statements in the present application.

Furthermore, for a further explanation of relevance of previously cited Japanese document 2000-277003, the Examiner is respectfully referred to U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0136896 A1, published September 26, 2002.

Copies of the documents cited in the Japanese Office Action are not submitted herewith, since the documents have been previously submitted and cited in at least one of Information Disclosure Statements filed on November 30, 2004 and September 9, 2003.

U.S. Patent No. 6,628,053 issued from Application No. 09/178,680, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

U.S. Patent No. 6,853,126 issued from Application No. 09/955,137, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

U.S. Patent No. 6,858,990 issued from Application No. 10/235,809, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

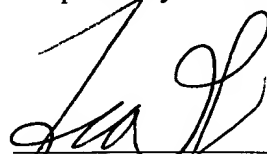
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003-00006684 A2 issued from Application No. 10/106,484, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003-0048055 issued from Application No. 10/234,213, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

Entry and consideration hereof are earnestly solicited, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to confirm in writing that he has considered the present Information Disclosure Statement, by returning an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Frank A. DeLucia  
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500664v1

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.015728.</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>09/940,642</b>	
APPLICANT <b>SHINICHI KAWATE ET AL.</b>				FILING DATE <b>AUGUST 29, 2001</b>		GROUP <b>2879</b>	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	2002/0136896 A1	9/02	Takikawa et al.	428	408		
	6,628,053	9/03	Den et al.	313	310		
	6,853,126	2/05	Nomura	313	492		
	6,858,990	2/05	Tsukamoto	315	169.1		
	2003-0006684 A1	1/03	Kawate et al.	313	311		
	2003-0048055 A1	3/03	Ishikura et al.	313	311		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		
2000-277003	10/00	JAPAN			Abstract		
2001-052598	2/01	JAPAN			Abstract		
09-237565	9/97	JAPAN			Abstract		
11-194134	7/99	JAPAN			Abstract		
2000-191302	7/00	JAPAN			Abstract		

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	Paper entitled Reason for Refusal (pages 2-7), which is an English translation of part of a 2004 Japanese Official Letter

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
 Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1